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WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU APPROVES SIXTH AND FINAL GROUP OF FUNDING AWARDS IN ROUND 2 OF COVID-19 TELEHEALTH PROGRAM

100 Health Care Providers Receive Critical Support for Telehealth and Connected Care Services

WC Docket No. 20-89

Today, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) approves the sixth and final group of funding commitments under Round 2 of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Telehealth Program (Program) and commits \$47.89 million in funding to 100 health care providers across the Nation. The funding commitments made today will provide critical support to health care providers on the front lines in the fight against the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. A full list of the funding awardees receiving funding commitments today is included in Appendix A of this Public Notice. With today's announcement, 447 awardees have received funding commitments totaling \$256,378,567 and all funding in the Program has been committed.

The Federal Communications Commission (Commission) established the Program in April 2020 pursuant to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act³ to provide \$200 million in emergency funding to health care providers for telehealth and connected care services in response to COVID-19.⁴ To build on the Program's success, Congress appropriated an additional \$249.95 million to fund the second round of the Program as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021.⁵ On March

¹ See FCC Announces Awards For Round 2 of the COVID-19 Telehealth Program, WC Docket No. 20-89, Public Notices, DA 21-1052, 21-1221, 21-1319, 21-1403, and 21-1619 (WCB 2021).

² A full list of funding awards will be posted on the Bureau's website, https://www.fcc.gov/covid-19-telehealth-program-invoices-reimbursements. One previous funding commitment has been withdrawn by the Bureau. Unused funding from Round 1 of the Program has been de-obligated and is being committed to Round 2 awardees. See Wireline Competition Bureau Completes Initial Phase of COVID-19 Telehealth Program Round 2 Awards and Commences Ten-Day Resubmission Period, WC Docket No. 20-89, Public Notice, DA 21-1403, at 2, n.10 (WCB Nov. 9, 2021) (Fourth Funding Announcement Public Notice).

³ Promoting Telehealth for Low-Income Consumers; COVID-19 Telehealth Program, WC Docket Nos. 18-213, 20-89, Report and Order, 35 FCC Rcd 3366 (2020) (First COVID-19 Report and Order); Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No 116-136, 134 Stat. 281 (2020) (CARES Act).

⁴ From April 16, 2020, through July 8, 2020, the Commission fully obligated the \$200 million by issuing awards on a rolling basis to 539 applications. Press Release, FCC, FCC Approves Final Set of COVID-19 Telehealth Program Applications (July 8, 2020), https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-approves-final-set-covid-19-telehealth-program-applications.

⁵ Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Pub. L. No: 116-260, Division N-Additional Coronavirus Response and Relief, Title IX-Broadband Internet Access Service, § 903 "FCC COVID-19 Telehealth Program" (2020), available at https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/133/text (Consolidated Appropriations Act).

30, 2021, the Commission released the *Second COVID-19 Report and Order*,⁶ which initiated Round 2 of the Program by adopting additional requirements and processes to implement Congressional direction and improve Program administration. Applications for Round 2 were accepted from April 29, 2021, through May 6, 2021.⁷

As the Commission established in the Second COVID-19 Report and Order, funding for Round 2 of the Program was awarded in two phases.8 In the initial commitment phase, at least \$150 million was to be awarded based in part on geographic considerations and on the objective evaluation metrics outlined in the Second COVID-19 Report and Order. As directed by the Second COVID-19 Report and Order, once at least \$150 million was awarded, the Bureau issued a Public Notice announcing the remaining funding available for the final commitment window, 10 along with guidance, as directed by the Commission, on how the applicants that did not receive funding during the initial commitment phase could supplement their applications with additional information.¹¹ Applicants that did not receive funding in the initial commitment phase had ten days to supplement their application with any additional information they chose to include. The Public Notice announcing the ten-day period for applicants to supplement their applications was released on November 9, 2021, and the ten-day period closed on November 19, 2021. 12 As directed by the Commission, in the second phase, the remaining Program funding was to be awarded to the highest-scoring remaining applications, until all funding had been committed. With today's Public Notice, all remaining funding has been committed to the highest-scoring applicants. All applicants that did not receive a funding commitment will receive a Denial Letter explaining why they did not receive a commitment.

For further information regarding this Public Notice, please contact Nathan Eagan, Attorney Advisor, Wireline Competition Bureau, Nathan.Eagan@fcc.gov or (202) 418-0991. For more information about Round 2, refer to USAC's website at www.usac.org/about/covid-19-telehealth-program.

For inquiries and support related to Round 2 invoicing, please contact Round2TelehlthInvoicSupp@FCC.gov.

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⁶ COVID-19 Telehealth Program; Promoting Telehealth for Low-Income Consumers, WC Docket Nos. 20-89 and 18-213, Report and Order and Order on Reconsideration, 36 FCC Rcd 7141 (2021) (Second COVID-19 Report and Order).

⁷ Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Application Filing Window for Round 2 of COVID-19 Telehealth Program Will Open April 29, 2021, WC Docket No. 20-89, Public Notice, 36 FCC Rcd 7321 (WCB 2021).

⁸ Second COVID-19 Report and Order, 36 FCC Rcd at 7171-73, paras. 61-69.

⁹ Id. at 7157, para. 38.

¹⁰ Id. at 7172, para. 64.

¹¹ *Id.* at 7172, para, 65.

¹² See Wireline Competition Bureau Completes Initial Phase of COVID-19 Telehealth Program Round 2 Awards and Commences Ten-day Resubmission Period, WC Docket No. 20-89, Public Notice, DA 21-1403 (WCB Nov. 9, 2021).

APPENDIX A

Eligible Funding
Amount
\$498,756
\$572,310
\$33,335
\$339,501
\$102,328
\$457,603
\$835,068
\$218,741
\$169,383
\$493,888
\$638,914
\$506,702
\$1,000,000
\$447,400
\$734,675
\$152,398
\$215,300
\$128,517
\$449,201
\$631,836
\$691,230
\$556,846
\$539,840
\$248,024
\$915,985
\$237,738
\$33,320
\$46,323
\$541,077
\$241,586
\$938,136
\$1,000,000
\$367,900

Lead Health Care Provider or Applicant	Eligible Funding Amount
Edgewater Health	\$411,750
Equitas Health	\$263,045
Family Counseling Center	\$163,900
Glencoe Regional Health Services	\$53,688
Great River Medical Center	\$134,645
Health West, Inc.	\$774,240
HealtHIE Georgia	\$923,986
HealthNet	\$620,007
Herald Christian Health Center	\$604,854
Heritage Behavioral Health Center	\$294,000
Heritage Health and Housing, Inc.	\$701,277
High Country Community Health Center	\$495,429
Hill Country MHDD Centers	\$847,968
Hocking Valley Community Hospital	\$410,647
Houlton Regional Hospital	\$277,934
Jamaica Hospital	\$925,912
Kadlec Regional Medical Center	\$762,420
Kaweah Delta Health Care District	\$994,003
Kern County Hospital Authority	\$600,320
Lakewood Health System	\$376,200
Los Angeles Christian Health Centers	\$47,219
University of Louisville Health	\$571,652
Marion General Hospital	\$716,050
McLeod Regional Medical Center of the Pee Dee	\$764,309
Mercy Foundation	\$375,768
Michigan Masonic Home	\$519,532
Morehouse Healthcare	\$907,235
Mount Sinai Medical Center	\$925,208
Multi-Cultural Health Evaluation Delivery System	\$80,137
Navicent Health	\$549,463
Neighborhood Health	\$968,632
New Frontier	\$134,353
North Central Texas Community Health Care Center	\$531,156
North Homes, Inc.	\$233,446
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Lead Health Care Provider or	Eligible Funding
Applicant	Amount
Northeast Valley Health Corporation	\$341,392
Northpointe Behavioral Healthcare	\$37,679
Oklahoma Department of Corrections	\$202,692
One Brooklyn Health System	\$354,000
Open Door Community Health Centers	\$201,300
Pediatric and Family Medical Center	\$357,096
Potomac Valley Hospital	\$70,669
Premier Community Healthcare Group	\$569,940
Premium Health, Inc.	\$29,438
Prestera Center for Mental Health Services	\$166,050
Primary Care Health Services, Inc.	\$321,183
The Providence Community Health Centers	\$898,467
Riverwood Healthcare Center	\$250,488
Roper St. Francis Hospital-Berkeley	\$630,678
SAC Health System	\$540,319
San Ysidro Health	\$1,000,000
Scioto Paint Valley Mental Health Center	\$400,712
Spartanburg Regional Health Services District	\$152,230
Speare Memorial Hospital	\$307,324
St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Inc.	\$949,340
St. Luke's Hospital	\$796,010
St. Mary's Health Wagon	\$40,800
Summit Community Care Clinic	\$143,495
Tessie Cleveland Community Services Corporation	\$394,142
ThedaCare	\$728,429
United Community Family Services	\$946,016
Valley Children's Hospital	\$158,442
Valley Health Team	\$665,958
Venice Family Clinic	\$697,864
The Village Health Center	\$261,458
Vista Community Clinic	\$894,718
Vocational Instruction Project	\$515,984
Yakima Valley Council on Alcoholism Triumph Treatment Services	\$916,782